

Warren, Maryland

The village of Warren was founded in 1750 in the Gunpowder Falls Valley, north of Baltimore City. The village, surrounded by farmland, grew to have two gristmills and a cotton textile mill. At its height, the mill employed 1,000 people. The village had houses for the workers, a school, churches, and general stores.

Water from the Gunpowder became part of Baltimore City's water supply in 1881. But as industry and population grew in the City in the 1900s, officials looked north to expand their water supply. The City's water department made plans to build a higher dam along the Gunpowder that would flood parts of the valley, including the village of Warren.

In 1921, after more than 10 years of negotiation, the mill owners accepted \$1 million from the City for the mill and surrounding village. Workers arrived to clear the land and demolish the buildings. Some structures were left in the woods, and a few houses and the Warren school were moved to other sites. Some former residents moved near other mills in the county; others moved to Hampden, a textile mill neighborhood in Baltimore along the Jones Falls.

Within a year, work on the dam was completed and water built up behind it. On April 6, 1923, the Baltimore Sun reported that the town of Warren had disappeared under more than 20 million gallons of water in the Loch Raven Reservoir.

Today, the Reservoir is an important park and recreational area with walking trails and picnic areas. Fishing and boating are also popular.

<http://everything2.com/title/Warren%252C+Maryland>

Harvey, Ryan. Hidden Histories of Baltimore County, Even if Your Voice Shakes, 12/19/2010;

<http://voiceshakes.wordpress.com/2010/12/19/hidden-histories>